

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 PM-03

INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 /062 W  
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P R 081605Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2605

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3619

SECSTATE FOR EUR (HON. A. HARTMAN)

SECDEF FOR ODDR&E (HON. M.R. CURRIE) AND OASD/ISA (HON. R. ELLSWORTH)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAF, PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO STANDARDIZATION

1. DEFAD (LEGERE) MET WITH ASYG TUCKER 3 JULY FOR ANOTHER SUBSTANTIAL DISCUSSION ON STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF STANDARDIZATION DEVELOPMENTS IN NATO. TUCKER SAID THAT PROPOSED REPLY OF SYG LUNS TO SECDEF'S COVER LETTER OF 30 APRIL FORWARDING NUNN STANDARDIZATION REPORT WAS ON LUNS' DESK AWAITING SIGNATURE. SYG RETURNED LATE 3 JULY FROM PERMREP SIX-DAY TRIP TO ITALY AND, ON JULY 4, SIGNED THE LETTER TO SECDEF AND A COMPANION LETTER TO CMC HILL-NORTON. WE ARE SENDING TEXT OF LETTER TO SECDEF BY SEPTEL.

2. LUNS' LETTER IS FIRMLY RESPONSIVE TO SECDEF'S REQUEST IN HIS LETTER, AND THE COMPANION LETTER TO CMC ASKS THAT THE NMAS IDENTIFY AND REPORT DEFINITELY BY NOVEMBER THE ITEMS THE CONFIDENTIAL

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STANDARDIZATION OR INTEROPERABILITY OF WHICH WOULD PROVIDE THE GREATEST MILITARY PAYOFF. FORMULATION OF LATTER LETTER WAS COORDINATED WITH DMC, AND, IN FACT, WORK BY NMAS HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

3. ON A RELATED TRACK, TUCKER IS ABOUT READY TO BEGIN CONVENING WHAT SECDEF LETTER CALLED "AN AD HOC GROUP OF KEY REPRESENTATIVES". TUCKER BELIEVES, AND WE AGREE, THAT THE AD HOC GROUP WILL BE FOCUSING ON A DIMENSION OF STANDARDIZATION THAT IS INTERMEDIATE BETWEEN (A) TYPICAL ONGOING ACTIVITIES OF THE EXISTING COUNCIL OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS (CNAD) STRUCTURE -- WHICH TEND TO BE SOMEWHAT UNDERVALUED BY MANY WHO ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THEM; AND (B) AREA OF CALLAGHAN AND "EUROGROUP INITIATIVE" ADDRESS, WHICH IN ESSENCE REALLY TENDS TO DEAL WITH IMPEDIMENTS TO, RATHER THAN REAL SUBSTANCE OF, STANDARDIZATION -- E.G., IMPEDIMENTS POSED BY SUCH PROBLEMS AS PROTECTIONIST TRADE POLICIES, CARTEL-LIKE DIVISION OF MARKETS, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DISPROPORTIONS, RELATIVE IMMOBILITY OF LABOR IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES, ETC.

4. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR EXACTLY WHAT KINDS OF ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS WOULD CONSTITUTE THE INTERMEDIATE DIMENSION OF PRAGMATIC PROGRESS TOWARD INCREASED INTEROPERABILITY AND STANDARDIZATION, BUT IT DOES SEEM CLEAR THAT THE DIMENSION IS THERE. NAILING IT DOWN MORE PRECISELY THROUGH CAREFUL PROBLEM DEFINITION AND ANALYSIS, BOTH AT NATO AND IN WASHINGTON, SEEMS ESSENTIAL TO CREATE SOUND PROSPECTS OF SOME REAL-WORLD PROGRESS ABOVE THE OFTEN NARROW ONE-ITEM FOCUS OF A CNAD SUBGROUP BUT AT LEAST TEMPORARILY BELOW THE SEA-CHANGE INTERNATIONAL REFORMS ON WHICH THE CALLAGHAN REPORT AND THE "EUROPGROUP INITIATIVE" HAVE SO FAR TENDED TO SPREAD BROAD BRUSHES.

5. WE IN THIS MISSION HAVE BEEN EARLY, CONSISTENT, ACTION-ORIENTED, AND STRONG ADVOCATES OF INCREASING STANDARDIZATION WITHIN NATO, SOMETIMES IN THE FACE OF NOT ALTOGETHER ENTHUSIASTIC ATTITUDES IN OTHER RELEVANT QUARTERS -- AS FOR EXAMPLE IN RESPONDING TO THE NUNN AMENDMENT'S REQUIREMENT FOR AN INITIAL STANDARDIZATION REPORT. WE HAVE DONE SOM BECUASE WE HAVE BEEN DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH THE CENTRALITY OF INCREASED NATO COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS TO THE SUCCESS OF THE US-SPONSORED LONG RANGE DEFENSE CONCEPT ON WHICH THE VIABILITY OF NATO STRATEGY WILL REST ACROSS TH NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. AT THIS POINT, OUR CONFIDENTIAL

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SUPPORT OF STANDARDIZATION IS TAKING THE FORM OF TRYING TO INSURE THAT A SOUNDLY CONCEIVED, RATIONALLY ANALYZED, MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE, AND PRACTICAL ACTION PROGRAM EMERGES.  
BRUCE

CONFIDENTIAL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 18 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NATO03619  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197507102/abbrzkwt.tel  
**Line Count:** 102  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NATO STANDARDIZATION  
**TAGS:** MCAP, PFOR, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO USCINCEUR  
USNMR SHAPE  
USLOSACLANT  
CINCLANT  
**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006